

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Cancelled)
11. (Cancelled)
12. (Currently Amended) A method of removing ~~a~~ an optical compact disc from within a jewel case, wherein only a small gap space is interposed between said optical compact disc and said jewel case below said optical compact disc, said method comprising:
  - providing a manipulation device having at least one flat padded surface, wherein said flat padded surface is thin enough to pass into said gap space between said optical

compact disc and said jewel case;

advancing a portion of said flat padded surface into  
said gap space between said optical ~~under the~~ compact disc  
~~in the~~ and said jewel case;

gripping ~~the~~ said optical compact disc utilizing, at  
least in part, said flat padded surface, wherein said flat  
padded surface prevents ~~the~~ said optical compact disc from  
being directly contacted by a user's fingers; and

separating said optical compact disc from the jewel  
case by manipulating the optical compact disc through said  
flat padded surface when gripped.

13. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 12,  
wherein said optical compact disc has opposite face surfaces  
and said method includes gripping said opposite face  
surfaces between sections of said flat padded surface.

14. (Original) The method according to Claim 13, wherein  
said sections of said flat padded surface are formed from a  
common blank of material and wherein said step of providing  
a manipulation device includes folding said common blank of  
material so that said sections of said flat padded surface  
oppose one another.

15. (Original) The method according to Claim 12, wherein said  
sections of said flat padded surface include a bottom

section and a top section.

16. (Original) The method according to Claim 15, wherein said bottom section overextends said top section.

17. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim ~~7~~ 12, wherein said step of providing a manipulation device, includes providing a manipulation device comprising:

    a semi-flexible planar top element having a first face surface;

    a semi-flexible planar bottom element having a second face surface, wherein said top element and said bottom element are joined together along a common joint so that said first face surface and said second face surface are in opposition; and

    padding material disposed on said first face surface and said second face surface, wherein said semi-flexible planar top element and said padding material has a combined thickness less than said gap space between said optical compact disc and said jewel case.